



NATIONAL
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STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Week of: Aug 7-Aug 13, 2006

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CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 13, 2006

Warm temperatures and late week rain showers were the norm in the Commonwealth during the week ending August 13, 2006. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.9. Although the temperatures were above normal, it was the coolest week during the last four weeks. The average total precipitation for the state was 0.59 inches which was 0.34 below normal for the state. The rain showers revived crops all across Virginia. Corn and soybeans were doing well across the state. Potato producers are reporting good yields. Strawberry producers are getting beds ready for September planting. Some farmers are working on their second cutting of hay. Corn silage harvest has begun early due to the rapid dry down of the plants. Other activities included trimming hedgerows and field ditches, attending field days, scouting soybeans for insects, and repairing equipment.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

| Week Ending | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| July 16, 2006 | 0 | 8 | 81 | 11 |
| July 23, 2006 | 2 | 18 | 73 | 7 |
| July 30, 2006 | 4 | 27 | 66 | 3 |
| August 6, 2006 | 7 | 37 | 56 | 0 |
| August 13, 2006 | 11 | 35 | 53 | 1 |

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WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 13, 2006

| WEATHER STATION | TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit) | | | | PRECIPITATION (inches) | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|----|---------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|------|
| | HI | LO | Average | Departure from | TOTAL | Departure from | Days |
| NORTHERN | | | | | | | |
| Woodstock | 94 | 52 | 72 | -3 | 0.36 | -0.34 | 3 |
| Warrenton | 93 | 55 | 74 | -1 | 0.73 | -0.11 | 2 |
| Winchester 7 SE | 96 | 49 | 73 | -1 | 0.75 | -0.02 | 3 |
| Dale Enterprises | 92 | 52 | 72 | -2 | 0.11 | -0.73 | 3 |
| WESTERN | | | | | | | |
| Glasgow | 89 | 58 | 75 | 1 | 0.34 | -0.37 | 4 |
| Roanoke AP | 91 | 57 | 77 | 2 | 0.44 | -0.54 | 5 |
| Waynesboro | 87 | 53 | 72 | -1 | 0.00 | -0.84 | 0 |
| Staunton AG | 89 | 55 | 73 | 1 | 0.43 | -0.41 | 4 |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | | |
| Charlottesville | 94 | 54 | 76 | 1 | 0.76 | -0.34 | 3 |
| Piedmont Res ST | 95 | 56 | 76 | 2 | 0.22 | -0.77 | 3 |
| Bremo Bluff | 97 | 58 | 79 | 3 | 0.70 | -0.28 | 1 |
| Richmond AP | 96 | 60 | 79 | 2 | 0.94 | -0.11 | 3 |
| EASTERN | | | | | | | |
| Eastville | 93 | 61 | 77 | 0 | 0.20 | -0.64 | 1 |
| Wallops Island | 90 | 58 | 76 | -3 | 0.50 | -0.29 | 2 |
| Williamsburg | 93 | 58 | 76 | -2 | 0.37 | -0.69 | 3 |
| Keysville | 92 | 57 | 77 | 2 | 0.34 | -0.57 | 3 |
| SOUTHWESTERN | | | | | | | |
| Blacksburg AG | 86 | 53 | 72 | 2 | 1.06 | 0.22 | 5 |
| Wytheville | 85 | 52 | 72 | 2 | 1.52 | 0.71 | 5 |
| Saltville | 91 | 56 | 74 | 4 | 1.92 | 1.00 | 6 |
| Richlands | 89 | 55 | 73 | 7 | 1.31 | 0.39 | 4 |
| SOUTHERN | | | | | | | |
| Stuart | 90 | 57 | 76 | 3 | 1.73 | 0.67 | 6 |
| Danville AG | 94 | 60 | 80 | 3 | 0.35 | -0.54 | 3 |
| Chatham | 92 | 55 | 76 | 2 | 0.23 | -0.63 | 3 |
| Martinsville | 90 | 62 | 76 | 2 | 0.73 | -0.19 | 3 |
| SOUTHEASTERN | | | | | | | |
| Norfolk VA | 95 | 61 | 79 | 2 | 0.27 | -0.85 | 1 |
| Oceana | 93 | 58 | 78 | 1 | 0.01 | -1.25 | 1 |
| Emporia | 92 | 59 | 78 | 3 | 0.06 | -0.94 | 1 |
| Newport News | 95 | 57 | 78 | 0 | 0.00 | -1.12 | 0 |

Departure from normal based on 1961-90 normals.

Precipitation Days=Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

WEATHER & CROPS

Week Of August 7-August 13, 2006

| CROP CONDITION PERCENT | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Pastures | 4 | 25 | 39 | 29 | 3 |
| Livestock | 1 | 5 | 26 | 56 | 12 |
| Other Hay | 5 | 25 | 32 | 33 | 5 |
| Alfalfa Hay | 2 | 17 | 30 | 44 | 7 |
| Corn | 1 | 5 | 29 | 48 | 17 |
| Soybeans | 1 | 11 | 36 | 42 | 10 |
| Flue-cured Tobacco | 2 | 11 | 50 | 33 | 4 |
| Burley Tobacco | 0 | 2 | 14 | 57 | 27 |
| Dark Fire-cured Tobacco | 2 | 13 | 50 | 34 | 1 |
| Peanuts | 0 | 0 | 18 | 62 | 20 |
| Cotton | 0 | 3 | 22 | 45 | 30 |
| All Apples | 0 | 0 | 57 | 41 | 2 |
| Grapes | 0 | 1 | 23 | 72 | 4 |

| CROP PROGRESS PERCENT-WITH COMPARISONS | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Year Avg. |
| Corn Silked | 94 | 93 | 96 | 95 |
| Corn Dough | 73 | 49 | 70 | 72 |
| Corn Dent | 47 | 27 | 29 | 39 |
| Corn Mature | 17 | NA | 7 | 10 |
| Soybeans Blooming | 80 | 69 | 80 | 77 |
| Soybeans Setting Pods | 54 | 27 | 63 | 51 |
| Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested | 17 | 15 | 13 | 20 |
| Burley Tobacco Harvested | 1 | NA | 2 | 4 |
| Peanuts Pegged | 97 | 85 | 97 | 95 |
| Cotton Setting Bolls | 99 | 80 | 99 | 96 |
| Cotton Bolls Opening | 6 | 4 | 24 | 16 |
| Summer Potatoes Harvested | 96 | 95 | 99 | 95 |
| Summer Apples Harvested | 75 | 70 | 36 | 70 |
| Peaches Harvested | 84 | 61 | 63 | 69 |

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by Extension Agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

CAROLINE COUNTY (McGann Saphir):

Strawberry producers are getting beds ready for September planting. Farmers are still harvesting melons, sweet corn and tomatoes. Timely area-wide rains have saved the soybean crop for the time being, but we still need significant rainfall to insure a good crop. The corn crop is looking good, especially corn that was planted early (before the end of April). Later planted corn shows poor pollination and reduced grain fill. Pastures and hayfields have benefited from timely rains but more is needed.

ACCOMACK COUNTY (James N. Belote):

Timely rains so far should assure good soybean and corn crops. Tomato harvest is still going on but held up temporarily due to rains. Farmers are planning for fall wheat and barley crops and attending field days. Soybean producers are actively scouting soybean fields. Excellent potato yields have been reported this year. Harvest is almost complete. Farmers are bush hogging hedgerows and field ditches. Some are taking a short vacation.

ESSEX COUNTY (Keith Balderson):

Widespread rains of 1.2-2 inches on Thursday morning helped to restore topsoil moisture. Pastures, hay fields, and soybeans benefited greatly from the moisture, but more will be needed in the near future. Activities included preparation for the upcoming harvest season, scouting soybeans for insects (the corn earworm moth flight has increased, but no acres have been treated yet), and attending field days.

RICHMOND COUNTY (Kelly J. Liddington):

Most of the area received an inch of rain last week.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY (Sam Johnson):

The county had a good rain on Thursday which really made crops look better, especially soybeans. Beans had been suffering in the heat and late planted beans had very little growth. We saw 1.5 to 2 inches from Montross to Warsaw.

Some weed control spraying in soybeans is being done. Producers are checking soybeans for insects. Vegetable harvest continued and fall vegetable crop planting continued (such as broccoli).

LEE COUNTY (Harold Jerrell):

Rainfall rates of 1.5" to 3" fell last week with isolated wind damage to corn and burley tobacco.

SCOTT COUNTY (Scott Jerrell):

Rains in excess of 4 inches this week have revived most crop land. New growth of pastures and hay fields are readily noticed, and tobacco has greened up considerably. Strong winds in areas of the county did minor damage to trees and crops.

SMYTH COUNTY (Walter Robinson):

We have had a lot of damp weather but not a lot of rain, and we have had temps in the 90's.

HALIFAX COUNTY (Traci Talley):

The entire county went another week with out any rain and high temperatures. The tobacco harvest continues, but one can see how much the heat and lack of rain has set the crop back. The beans and corn continue to suffer and the grasses in pastures and hayfields and browned. Producers continue to supplement cattle with grain and hay supplies that should have been held for winter.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence, Jr.):

Cooler weather and showers this week were conducive to good crop development. Early corn is starting to fail as it is reaching maturity. Corn Earworm Moth (CEW) flight began last weekend, and some soybean fields reached thresholds for stinkbugs and very close for CEW too. Pesticide applications have begun on those farms. Fresh produce is abundant.



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